IDENTIFYING SOUTH CAROLINA VIRTUAL SCHOOL COURSES IN SASI FOR PILOT PROGRAM

SOUTH CAROLINA VIRTUAL SCHOOL
AND
DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Virtual courses (or on-line courses) can provide effective alternatives to the traditional school environment for students who need to meet certain graduation requirements, have class scheduling conflicts, and take courses in a non-traditional settings such as homebound and alternative schools. Virtual Learning courses are conducted via the Internet at any time during the day with the option to designate a time for the student to do on-line class work during and/or after normal school hours. The student, the instructor, and the school designate the time.
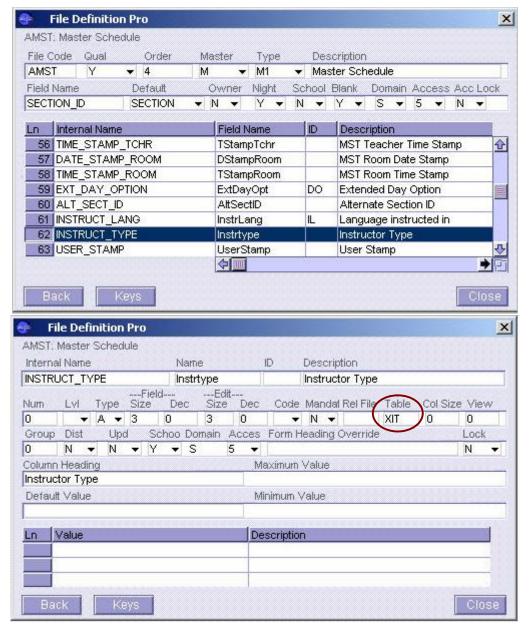
Virtual Learning courses require basic computer skills. Students can access their course twenty-four hours a day seven days a week, onsite or remotely. Beginning September 2006 (2006–2007 school year), Virtual Learning courses will be offered statewide, and the State Department of Education (SDE) will provide technical and implementation assistance to those school districts offering these courses to students.

The South Carolina Virtual School pilot began on June 1, 2006 and involved approximately ten school districts and three hundred students. The pilot enabled the SDE to test its online learning course management system, registration system, and quality assurance measures. We will use information from other state initiatives, and the ongoing pilot to refine statewide virtual school policies, guidelines, and procedures.
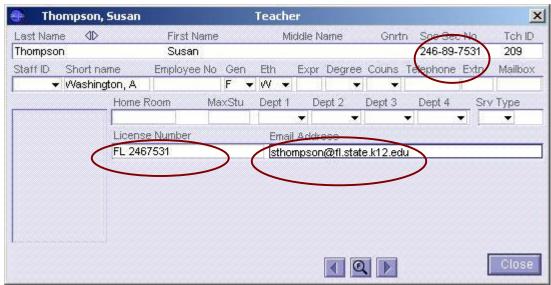
South Carolina Department of Education
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Instructions for Coding South Carolina Virtual School Courses in SASI

1. Clear the Inst Type field in the AMST file. According to Pearson, this field automatically stores a portion of a date from the mass scheduling process. Once a table is tied to this field, this will no longer happen, and our data will not be overwritten. Run this change query to clear the data from this field:
AMST Instrtype =' '

2. Attach the XIT table to the INSTRUCT_TYPE field in the AMST file. The current XIT table values are shown below in step 4. The XIT table was created during the 2006–2007 state template update. If you do not have the XIT table, you will need to create it in ATBL before performing these steps:
   - open the AMST file in File Def Pro,
   - scroll down to INSTRUCT_TYPE (line 62),
   - open INSTRUCT_TYPE by double-clicking it,
   - type 'XIT' in the Table field, and
   - save and close File Def Pro.

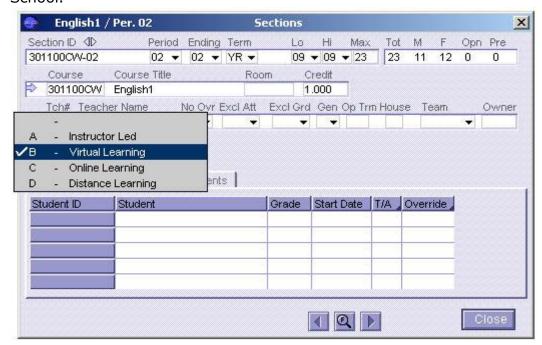South Carolina
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3. Add the South Carolina Virtual School teachers in your school to the ATCH atom. Currently, all South Carolina Virtual School teachers are state-certified teachers and, therefore, should have a South Carolina certificate number. Each teacher's information should be entered as any other teacher. If an out-of-state teacher is hired, enter his or her social security number (Soc Sec No), e-mail address, and certificate number (preceding his or her certificate number with the state abbreviation) as shown below. If you do not have this information on an out-of-state teacher, contact Dee Appleby at dappleby@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-7169.
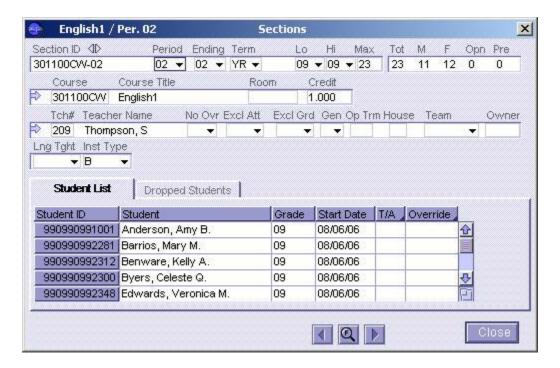

4. Add (or navigate to) the South Carolina Virtual School course and select the 'Virtual Learning' option from the Inst Type drop-down list. For the purpose of this pilot, South Carolina Virtual School courses are the **only** courses that should be coded. This list will be updated for statewide use in the 2007–2008 State Template. Option B will remain the option for South Carolina Virtual School.

5. Add the student(s) to the section. It is possible to only have one student in a section.

We will begin collecting this data during the QDC2/Precode upload. If you need further assistance with this process, please contact District Technology Services at dtsqueue@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-7000.